

Washington, DC – At the request of the Oakdale Mayor and City Council, Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-04) has secured \$400,000 for energy efficiency upgrades for the city in the Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (H.R. 3183), which was recently passed by the U.S. House of Representatives. The U.S. Senate is slated to vote on their appropriations bill in the coming weeks.

“I am very pleased the U.S. House has approved federal funding for this important energy efficiency project for the City of Oakdale that has been championed by Mayor Carmen Sarrack and the City Council,” said Congresswoman McCollum.

If the bill is signed into law by President Obama, the City of Oakdale will receive \$400,000 in federal funding to enhance the energy efficiency of the city’s public works facilities. The funding will make it possible for the city to install a new geothermal heat pump system, which would use water from an existing nearby water filtration facility to heat and cool the Public Works facility. The city will also replace existing high-pressure sodium parking lot lamps located at City Hall and Public Works facilities with light-emitting diode lamps.

“With our continued efforts on identifying ways to reduce our carbon footprint, these innovative measures will not only offer energy cost savings, but also provide excellent examples of Oakdale’s commitment to protecting our natural resources,” said Oakdale Mayor Sarrack.

The Energy and Water Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010 (H.R. 3183) is a \$33.3 billion spending bill that funds ongoing efforts to meet the infrastructure needs of the country and, after years of neglect, addressing the inadequacies of our national energy policies. It builds on the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act to create jobs with investments in conservation efforts, including energy efficient buildings. For clean energy and water infrastructure, the bill includes \$2.25 billion, 14 percent above 2009, to increase investments in technologies that use energy more effectively and produce clean, inexpensive energy from domestic sources. Also included is \$210 million for research conservation technologies for buildings and industry to reduce energy demand and increase savings.

Congresswoman Betty McCollum (MN-4) serves on the House Appropriations & Budget Committees.

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